

SMRP Knowledge Organiser for Year 6 'A Moment In Time'

History knowledge

What was it like to live through the plague?

History Vocabulary

- The Great Plague occurred between [1665 and 1666](#).
- Some doctors believed that **bad poisonous air** was the cause of the plague, infecting anyone who breathed it.
- The **most common symptoms** included headaches, fever, vomiting, painful swellings on the neck, armpits and groin (known as buboes), blisters and bruises and coughing up blood.
- There was still no cure for the plague – people just had to try and **stop it from spreading**.
- People suffering or showing symptoms of the plague were simply banished to their homes.
- **A large red cross** was nailed to the front door to warn others that those inside were infected. 'God have mercy upon us'
- The real root of the problem was black RATS!
- Fleas would bite the rats and become infected and the **infected fleas** would then spread the disease to humans.



A plague doctor

| Word | Definition |
|---------------|--|
| plague | a fast spreading fatal disease |
| population | all the inhabitants of a particular place |
| bacteria | a large group of micro-organisms, many of which cause disease |
| Plague doctor | a <i>physician</i> (doctor) who treated victims of the bubonic <i>plague</i> |
| quarantine | a period of isolation to prevent the spread of disease |



An infected household has a red cross painted on it with the words 'Lord have mercy upon us'

Key Dates in Chronological Order

| February 1665 | May 1665 | July 1665 | July 1665 | August 1665 | September 1665 | December 1665 | February 1666 | September 1666 |
|---|--|---|--|--|---|---|---|------------------------------------|
| The outbreak of the plague began in London. | By May 43 people had died from the plague. | The plague was rampant. King Charles II of England, his family and his court left the city for Salisbury. | 17,036 people die from the plague by July. | The plague reaches the Derbyshire village of Eyam. | The King moves to Oxford as Salisbury is hit by the plague. | By now people who had fled the plague began to move back to London. | London was considered safe enough for King Charles II to return to the capital. | The Great Fire of London occurred. |

